

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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O 241010Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2530

S E C R E T KINSHWSA 2660

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS PJVY PINR CG

SUBJ: GOZ ADMITS MILITARY SITUATION SERIOUS AND CALLS FOR MERCENARIES

1. MILITARY ATTACHES AND MAAG CHIEFS FROM BELGIUM, FRANCE, UK, AND US CALLED LAST NIGHT TO A BRIEFING HELD BY GENERAL BABIA, WHO LED OFF BY SAYING THAT HE HAD ASCERTAINED THAT FAZ COMMANDERS AT THE FRONT HAD BEEN MISLEADING PRESIDENT MOBUTU AS TO THE TRUE MILITARY SITUATION ON THE GROUND. WHEN FACED WITH THE FACTS, MOBUTU HAD AUTHORIZED BABIA TO BRIEF MILREPS.

2. FULL REPORT OF GOZ SITREP WILL BE SENT SEPTTEL BUT THRUST IS (A) THAT MILITARY COMMANDERS ON THE GROUND HAVE LIED TO PRES MOBUTU AND (B) THAT FAZ TROOPS ARE AFRAID TO FIGHT. SPECIFICALLY:  
--CONTRARY TO EARLIER REPORTS, KASAJI HAS NEVER BEEN RETAKEN BY FAZ, INDEED NO REAL ATTEMPT WAS MADE.  
--THE FAZ COMPANY WHICH WAS REPORTEDLY HEADED SOUTH FROM LUIZA TOWARD KAPANGA IS IN FACT NOT MOVING ANYWHERE AND MINE FIELD WHICH WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE HALTED THEIR ADVANCE WAS "IMAGINARY." THIS COMPANY SEEMS TO BE PURPOSELY STAYING OUT OF CONTACT WITH HIGHER HEADQUARTERS.  
--FAZ COMPANY WHICH REPORTEDLY WAS MOVING TO ROADBLOCK POSITION ON SANDOA-KAMINA ROAD IS IN FACT HIDING IN CATHOLIC MISSION AT DILOLO -- WHERE NUNS ARE CALLING FOR THEIR EVACUATION. THIS COMPANY TOO IS PURPOSELY STAYING OUT OF COMMUNICATION WITH  
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HIGHER HEADQUARTERS.

--MACCHI PILOTS HAVE NO CONFIDENCE IN THEIR PLANES AND AFTER HAVING TAKEN A FEW ROUNDS OF HOSTILE LIGHT ARMS, HAVE REFUSED TO FLY.

--ELEMENTS OF THE KAMANYOLA DIVISION HAVE DESERTED, WITH THEIR ARMS, AND MAY HAVE GONE INTO THE MAQUIS.

--THE INVADERS REMAIN OFF THE ROAD AND OUT OF CAPTURED TOWNS

DURING THE DAYTIME. THEY CONTINUE THEIR PROGRESSION TOWARD KOLWEZI AND AS OF THE EVENING OF MAR 22 MUTSHATSHA WAS SEVERELY THREATENED.

3. THE WRITTEN SITREP, OF WHICH WE HAVE A COPY CONCLUDES:

(A) THAT ZAIRE MUST CALL IN "FOREIGN VOLUNTEERS" (READ MERCENAIRES);

(B) MERCENARIES SHOULD INCLUDE PILOTS, LOGISTIC TYPES AND TRAINERS, BUT BULK OF FORCE MUST BECOME "SPEARHEAD" OF COUNTERATTACK;

(C) GOZ MUST CONCENTRATE NOW ON DEFENSE OF KOLWEZI (WHICH INVADERS' TRACTS SHOW TO BE NEXT MAJOR TARGET) AND UPON URGENT RETRAINING OF FAZ ELEMENTS IN KAMINA, USING MERCENARIES AS ABOVE;

(D) THAT BABIA SHOULD CALL IN MILREPS, GIVE TRUE PICTURE AND ASK FOR HELP AND THAT MOBUTU SHOULD CALL IN AMBASSADORS AND DO SAME.

4. AFTER BRIEFING, BABIA ASKED CZAMISH TO STAY ON AND TOLD HIM THAT GOZ NEEDED MERCENARIES FROM THE US. HE SPECIFICALLY ASKED FOR ANTI-CASTRO CUBANS WHO HAD BEEN USED DURING EARLY SIXTEIS, PREFERABLY BLACK, SINCE HE REALIZED POLITICAL IMPLICATION IF WHITE MERCENARIES SHOWED UP. BABIA DID NOT ASK CZAMISH TO TRANSMIT REQUEST TO WASHINGTON, BUT RATHER TO TALK WITH AMBASSADOR, WHO SHOULD THEN DISCUSS WITH MOBUTU. CZAMISH SAID HE WOULD PASS ALONG TO AMBASSADOR.

5. FULL REPORT AND COMMENTS SEPTTEL.

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## Message Attributes

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